MARVEL
#3
WALKER
PACHECO
FONTERIZ
OBACK
TAKE BACK JUSTICE!
OCCUPY
avengers
TM
ENTER:
NIGHTHAWK

THERE IS A MAN. AND IF YOU CAN FIND HIM, AND IF HE BELIEVES IN YOUR PLIGHT, HE AND HIS TEAM WILL DO WHAT NEEDS TO BE DONE.

SOME CALL THEM OUTLAWS, REBELS, ROBIN HOODS. TO MANY, THEY ARE HEROES. NO POWERS TO SPEAK OF, JUST SKILLS, SMARTS AND THE DRIVE TO PUT THINGS RIGHT.

OCCUPY AVENGERS

A VISION OF THE FUTURE FORCED HAWKEYE TO KILL ONE OF HIS CLOSEST ALLIES--BRUCE BANNER, A.K.A. THE HULK. NOW HE DRIVES ACROSS THE COUNTRY ON A JOURNEY OF REDEMPTION, CAUSING A LOT OF TROUBLE FOR SOME VERY BAD PEOPLE AND HELPING WHOMEVER HE CAN. ON A RECENT ADVENTURE IN NEW MEXICO, HE MET RED WOLF, A TIME-DISPLACED DEPUTY SHERIFF AND KINDRED SPIRIT WHO DECIDED TO JOIN HAWKEYE ON HIS TRAVELS.

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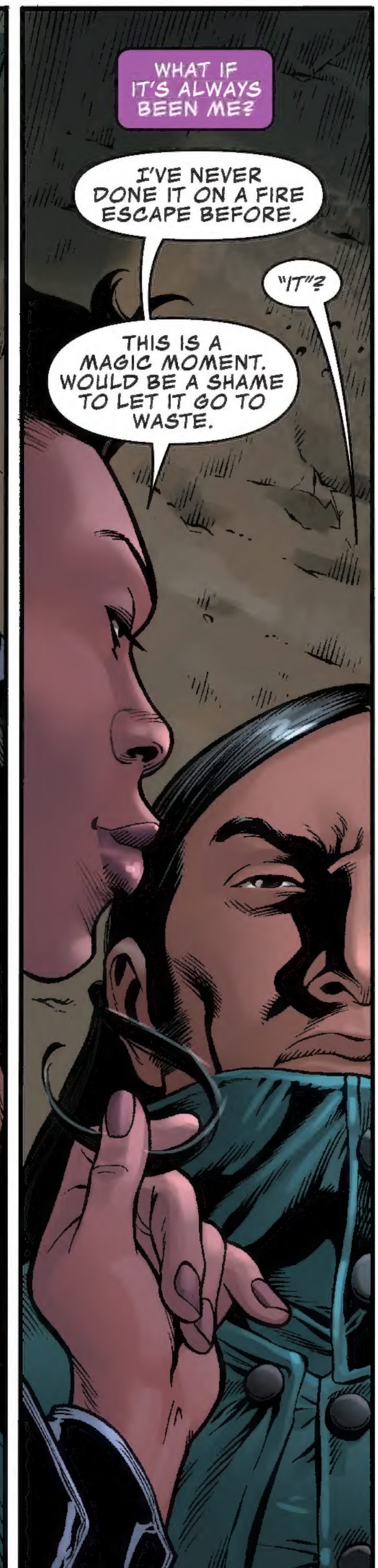
CHICAGO.
I CAN DO THIS ALL DAY.
SOME PEOPLE DON'T LIKE ME.
REALLY?
FWAPAK
I CAN UNDERSTAND PEOPLE HATING ME FOR WHAT HAPPENED WITH BRUCE BANNER.
UNGH.
CRAAASH
BUT OTHER PEOPLE JUST DON'T LIKE ME FOR COMPLETELY UNRELATED REASONS.
YOU REALLY NEED TO WORK ON LETTING GO OF THINGS...
...I APOLOGIZED FOR WHAT HAPPENED LAST TIME--IT WAS A MISUNDERSTANDING.
PERSONALITY CONFLICTS. AN UNINTENTIONAL SOCIAL FAUX PAS HERE OR THERE.
AND THE NEXT THING YOU KNOW...
YOU NEED TO LIGHTEN UP. TRY MEDITATION.
I TOLD YOU LAST TIME, HAWKEYE...

...IF I EVER SAW YOU AGAIN, I'D KILL YOU.
...SOMEONE WANTS TO KILL YOU.
OKAY... SO NOW I KNOW YOU MEANT THAT LITERALLY.
THE THING IS, I'VE HAD THIS PROBLEM MUCH OF MY LIFE.
WHERE ARE THEY?
I NEED TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT THIS.
I WOULDN'T GET INVOLVED, RED WOLF. NIGHTHAWK AND BARTON HAVE... UNRESOLVED ISSUES.

I USED TO THINK PEOPLE WANTING TO KILL ME HAD MORE TO DO WITH THEM.
FROM THIS VANTAGE POINT, NIGHTHAWK LOOKS DETERMINED TO KILL MY FRIEND.
OH, HE'LL PROBABLY CALM DOWN BEFORE IT COMES TO THAT. HE'S MELLOWED THAT WAY--I SECRETLY SWITCHED HIS REGULAR COFFEE TO DECAF.
HE HASN'T KILLED ANYONE SINCE THEN--CRIPPLED A FEW, BUT NO ONE HAS DIED.

THAT IT WAS THEIR UNRESOLVED BAGGAGE FROM A MESSED-UP CHILDHOOD THAT MADE THEM WANT ME DEAD.
I FAIL TO SEE THE HUMOR...
I'M SERIOUS.
YOUR COMPANION IS INFLICTING PAIN UPON MY FRIEND.
IT'S GOOD FOR HIM. PAIN IS JUST WEAKNESS LEAVING THE BODY--I READ THAT ON A T-SHIRT ONCE.

THEN I STARTED TO WONDER--WHAT IF IT'S NOT THEM? WHAT IF IT'S ME?
THIS IS NOT THE TIME FOR JOKES. WE NEED TO...UM...WHY ARE YOU LOOKING AT ME THAT WAY?
DAMN, YOU ARE HOT.


WHAT IF IT'S ALWAYS BEEN ME?
I'VE NEVER DONE IT ON A FIRE ESCAPE BEFORE.
"IT"?
THIS IS A MAGIC MOMENT. WOULD BE A SHAME TO LET IT GO TO WASTE.

WHAT IF ALL THESE PEOPLE WANTED TO KILL ME BECAUSE OF ME?
STOP. WE NEED TO END THIS FIGHT, BEFORE YOUR FRIEND INJURES BARTON.
THERE'S ENOUGH TIME FOR US TO...YOU KNOW... AND THEN STOP THE FIGHT.

KRACK
WIFF
STOP HITTING ME...
...AND LISTEN!
NO!
YEAH...HE MIGHT JUST KILL HIM.
HE REALLY DOESN'T LIKE HAWKEYE.
I CAN SEE.
ACK!
THWUMP
I CONSIDERED IT FOR A WHILE--THAT IT MIGHT BE ME...
...BUT I REALIZED, FOR THE MOST PART, IT'S REALLY NOT ME--IT'S THEM.

OOOOF!
ENOUGH!
THWACK
THE THING ABOUT CRIMEFIGHTERS IS THAT SOME OF THEM ARE REALLY TERRITORIAL. NIGHTHAWK--HE'S ONE OF THOSE.
THIS DOESN'T CONCERN YOU. BACK OFF NOW, AND YOU WON'T GET HURT.
NO, YOU WON'T GET HURT--IF YOU SIMPLY HOLD YOUR GROUND.
HE'S REALLY INTENSE--LIKE FRANK CASTLE, ONLY WITHOUT THE SENSE OF HUMOR. AND CHICAGO BELONGS TO HIM--HIS WORDS, NOT MINE.
NOT A CHANCE!
FIRST TIME I MET NIGHTHAWK--WHICH WASN'T THAT LONG AGO--HE THREATENED TO KILL ME.
I WARNED YOU!
LIKE I SAID--NOT MUCH BY WAY OF A SENSE OF HUMOR.
DANCE
THUNK
AND THE FULL-FACE MASK MAKES HIM A TOUGH READ.
I'LL KILL YOU, TOO!
I DOUBT THAT...AND EVEN IF YOU DO...
...IT WILL NOT BE ON THIS DAY.
DAMN. JUST WHEN I THOUGHT YOU COULDN'T GET ANY SEXIER.
I PREFER PEOPLE LIKE TILDA JOHNSON--A.K.A. DEADLY NIGHTSHADE. NIGHTHAWK'S...SIDEKICK? I GUESS THAT'S WHAT YOU'D CALL HER.

I GET PEOPLE LIKE TILDA. EX-CRIMINAL, LOOKING TO MAKE GOOD FOR HER PAST MISDEEDS...

WE HAVE NO QUARREL WITH YOU--NO HATRED.

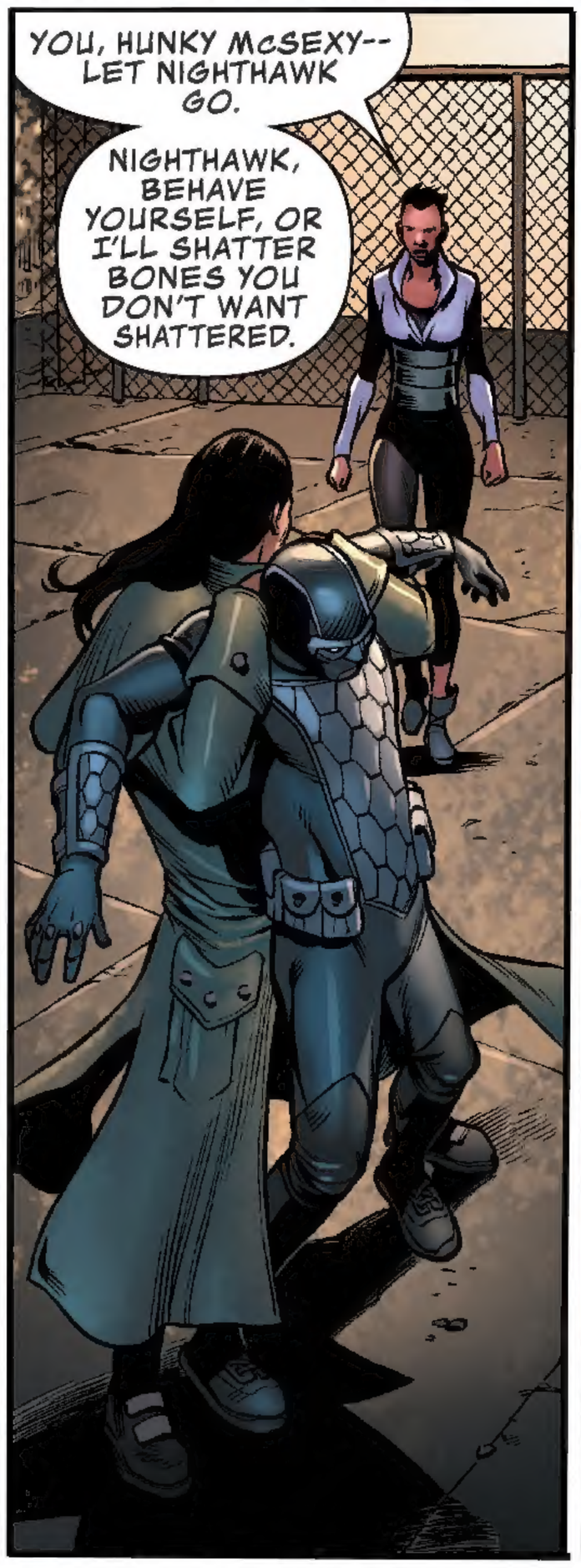
LET ME GO.

OKAY, BOYS--ALL THIS TESTOSTERONE IS STARTING TO MAKE ME SWOON, BUT IT'S TIME Y'ALL ACTED YOUR AGE AND NOT YOUR SHOE SIZE.

...KIND OF LIKE ME.

WE'RE NOT HERE FOR A FIGHT. WE CAME LOOKING FOR HELP...

...WE NEED *YOUR* HELP, TILDA.



THE NEST.
NIGHTHAWK'S BASE OF OPERATIONS. LATER.

THIS WAY. ALMOST THERE.

WHOA. IS THIS YOUR SECRET HEADQUARTERS?

THERE WAS NO NEED TO BLINDFOLD US. YOUR SECRETS ARE SAFE WITH US.

SHUT UP AND TELL US WHAT YOU WANT.

ME AND RED WOLF GOT INTO A BIT OF A SITUATION LAST WEEK, AND, WELL...WE RECOVERED *THIS.*

THERE'S NOT MANY PEOPLE WHO KNOW MORE ABOUT ADVANCED ROBOTICS THAN TILDA, WHICH IS WHY WE'RE HERE.

ACTUALLY, NO ONE KNOWS MORE THAN ME.

WHAT THE #%@& IS THAT?

THAT'S WHY WE'RE HERE TO SEE YOU--TO FIND OUT.

THAT FACE... THAT LOOKS LIKE THE GIPPER...

IT IS.

AND YOU JUST *HAPPENED* TO FIND THIS?

COMPLICATED STORY.

ONE HOUR LATER.

...THIS IS ONE OF THE BEST WORKS OF ROBOTIC ENGINEERING I'VE EVER SEEN. BUT THAT'S NOT THE AMAZING PART...

THIS THING IS AT LEAST THIRTY OR FORTY YEARS OLD-- YOU CAN TELL BY SOME OF THE NEURO-CYBER CIRCUITRY. THIS WIRING WAS OBSOLETE BEFORE THIS COWBOY WAS OUT OF OFFICE.

BUT THERE'S NO WAY ANYONE COULD'VE MADE A ROBOT THIS GOOD THAT LONG AGO.

WE DIDN'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT THE CIRCUITRY, BUT THE LEVEL OF SOPHISTICATION IN THE DESIGN-- THE LIKENESS TO THE REAL MAN...

THIS IS WHY WE ARE HERE.

AND YOU JUST HAPPENED TO FIND THIS?

WHAT ELSE AREN'T YOU TELLING US, BARTON?

WE ALSO RECOVERED THIS-- WE DON'T KNOW WHAT IT IS.

NO. WAY.

THERE'S NO WAY THAT IS WHAT I THINK IT IS.

TELL US EVERYTHING, BARTON. OR I'LL PICK UP WHERE WE LEFT OFF.

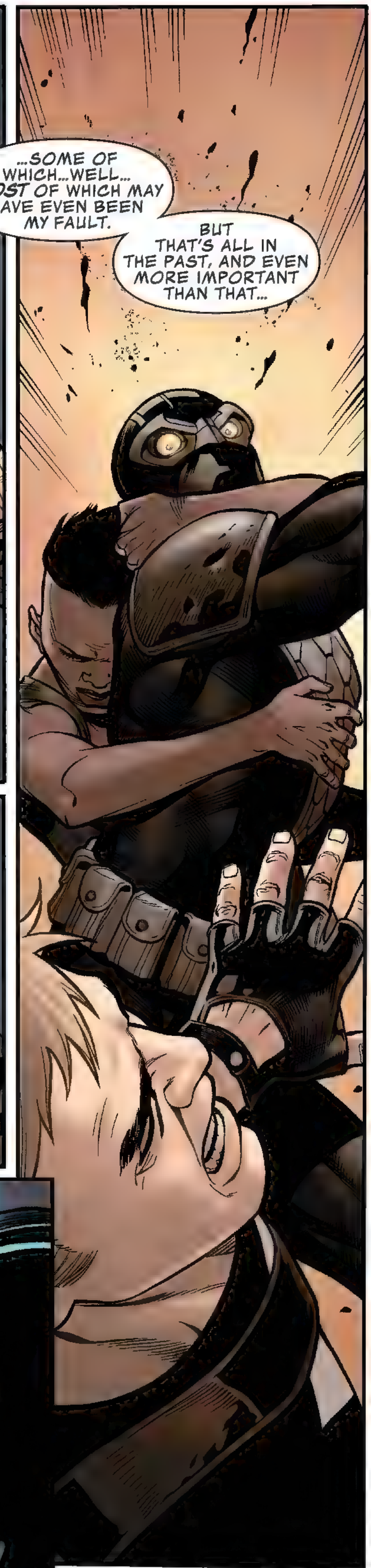
IT'S A BIT COMPLICATED. RED WOLF AND I-- WE'VE BEEN LOOKING FOR WRONGS TO RIGHT.

"WRONGS TO RIGHT"? WHAT THE HELL DOES *THAT* MEAN?

OH, COME ON...

...DON'T ACT LIKE YOU DON'T KNOW. YOU DRESS UP LIKE A BIRD AND FIGHT CRIME. IF THAT DOESN'T SCREAM OF A NEED TO RIGHT WRONGS, I DON'T KNOW WHAT DOES.
I...
HE'S GOT YOUR NUMBER, BOSS.

LOOK, NIGHTHAWK-- OR IF YOU PREFER, MISTER NIGHTHAWK-- I KNOW WE DIDN'T HIT IT OFF THAT WELL THE FIRST TIME WE MET...


...SOME OF WHICH...WELL... MOST OF WHICH MAY HAVE EVEN BEEN MY FAULT.
BUT THAT'S ALL IN THE PAST, AND EVEN MORE IMPORTANT THAN THAT...

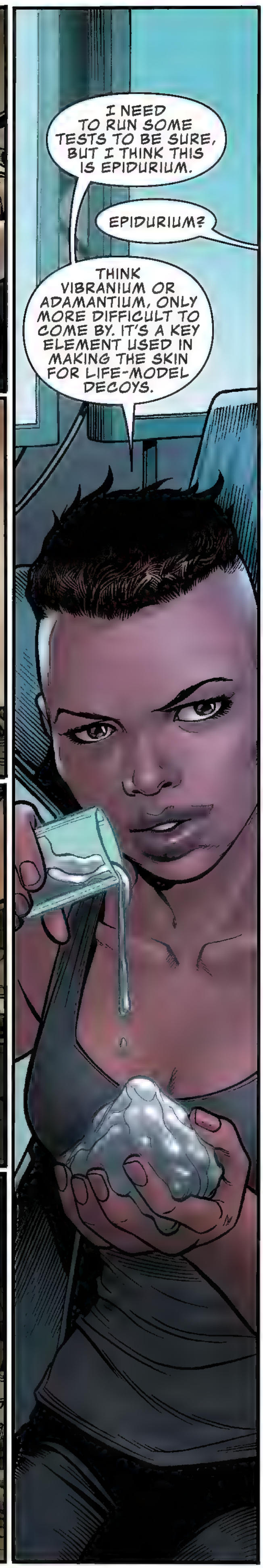
...WE'RE ON THE SAME TEAM.
FIRST OF ALL, THE PAST YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT WAS LESS THAN TWO MONTHS AGO.
SECOND-- WHAT TEAM ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?

THE TEAM, MAN. CRIMEFIGHTING DO-GOODERS WATCHING OUT FOR THE PEOPLE NO ONE WATCHES OUT FOR. THE TEAM.
TELL HIM, RED WOLF.
YES, THE TEAM.

CAN YOU PLEASE JUST TELL US WHERE YOU GOT THIS STUFF BEFORE NIGHTHAWK LOSES HIS PATIENCE, AND I LET HIM BEAT THE HELL OUT OF YOU?
THANK YOU.

OKAY, OKAY. IT STARTED WHEN ME AND RED WOLF DECIDED TO TEAM UP--WHICH HAS BEEN REALLY THERAPEUTIC FOR ME.

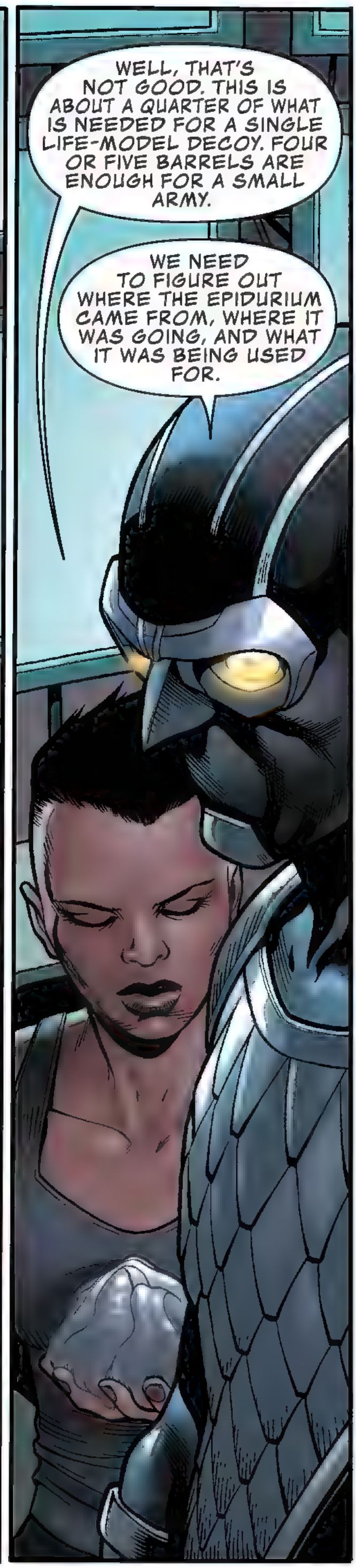
"WE TOOK DOWN A GANG OF METH DEALERS IN KENTUCKY--THAT WAS AWESOME, AND IT LED TO THIS *OTHER* THING.
"NO NEED TO TALK ABOUT THE OTHER THING, BUT THE OTHER THING LED TO *ANOTHER* THING, WITH THESE GUYS HIJACKING TRUCKS.
"I KNOW--TRUCK HIJACKERS--SOUNDS RIDICULOUS. BUT THESE GUYS WERE RIPPING OFF PEOPLE LIKE YOU WOULDN'T BELIEVE.
"SO, WE'RE HELPING OUT THESE TRUCKERS THAT KEEP GETTING HIJACKED--YOU KNOW, RIGHTING WRONGS...
"...WHEN WE STUMBLE ACROSS THIS MASSIVE ACCIDENT ON HIGHWAY 51 INVOLVING A COAL TRUCK. ONLY HERE'S THE THING...
"...THERE WAS NO COAL IN THE TRUCK. IT WAS PART OF SOME KIND OF SMUGGLING OPERATION.
"AND I'M NOT TALKING CONTRABAND CIGARETTES OR BLACK MARKET ORGANS.
"I'M TALKING ROBOTIC HEADS AND BARRELS OF THIS WEIRD STUFF."


I NEED TO RUN SOME TESTS TO BE SURE, BUT I THINK THIS IS EPIDURIUM.
EPIDURIUM?
THINK VIBRANIUM OR ADAMANTIUM, ONLY MORE DIFFICULT TO COME BY. IT'S A KEY ELEMENT USED IN MAKING THE SKIN FOR LIFE-MODEL DECOYS.

WAIT... WHAT...?
LIFE-MODEL DECOYS. HIGHLY SOPHISTICATED ANDROIDS THAT ARE--
YEAH, I KNOW WHAT A LIFE-MODEL DECOY IS--I LOOKED IT UP ON GOOGLE SO YOU'D KNOW WHAT WE WERE TALKING ABOUT.
WHAT I WANT TO KNOW IS WHY THIS TRUCK HAD BARRELS OF EPIDURAL...

EPIDURIUM.
AND YOU SAID THERE WERE BARRELS?

I COUNTED FOUR OR FIVE SUCH BARRELS. ONE HAD RUPTURED, WHICH IS WHERE WE GOT THIS SAMPLE...
BEFORE THE STATE POLICE TOOK EVERYTHING AWAY. GETTING THAT HEAD PAST THEM WASN'T EASY.
NO, IT WAS NOT.


WELL, THAT'S NOT GOOD. THIS IS ABOUT A QUARTER OF WHAT IS NEEDED FOR A SINGLE LIFE-MODEL DECOY. FOUR OR FIVE BARRELS ARE ENOUGH FOR A SMALL ARMY.
WE NEED TO FIGURE OUT WHERE THE EPIDURIUM CAME FROM, WHERE IT WAS GOING, AND WHAT IT WAS BEING USED FOR.

YES! I LOVE A GOOD TEAM-UP. HIGH-FIVE!
I DON'T LIKE YOU.

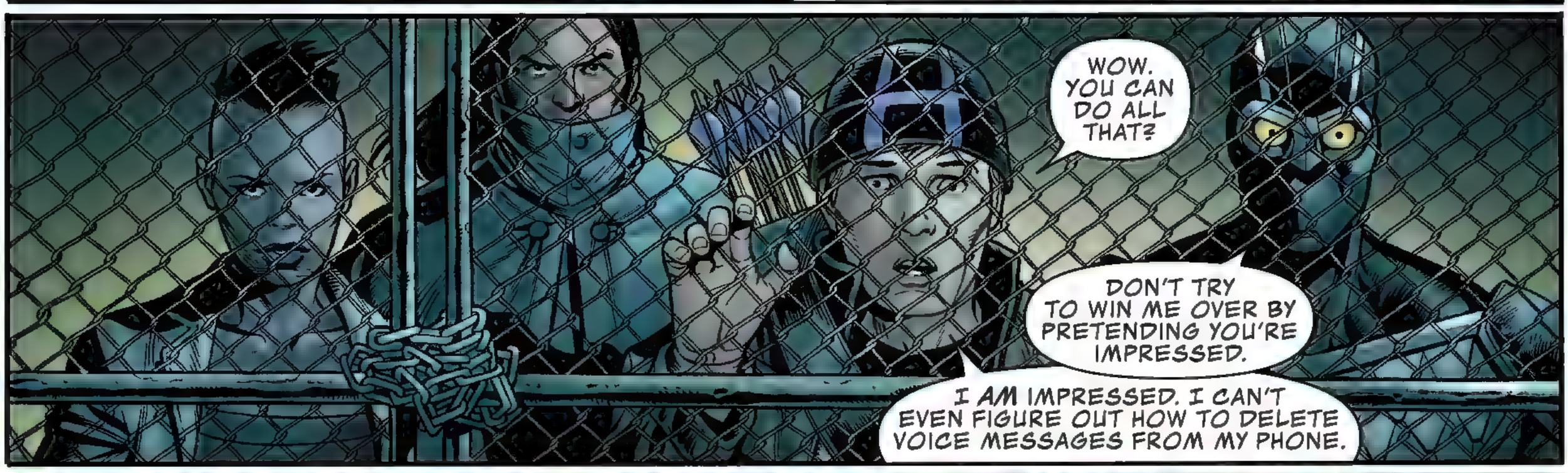
HOURS LATER.
GREATER CENTRAL ILLINOIS COAL COMPANY.

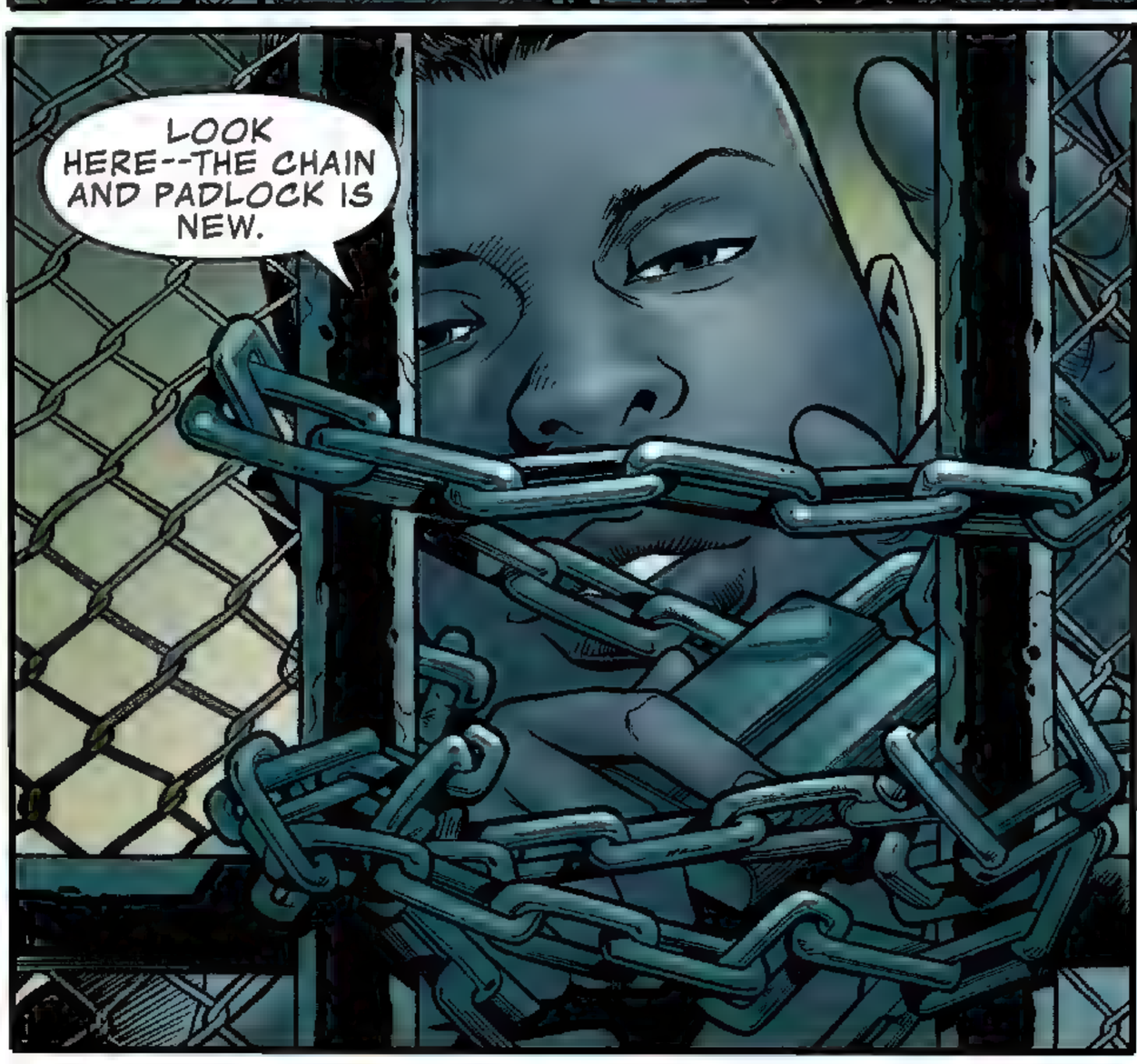
THIS CAN'T BE THE PLACE. LOOK AT IT--IT'S ABANDONED.

SEEMS LIKE IT'S BEEN CLOSED FOR DECADES.

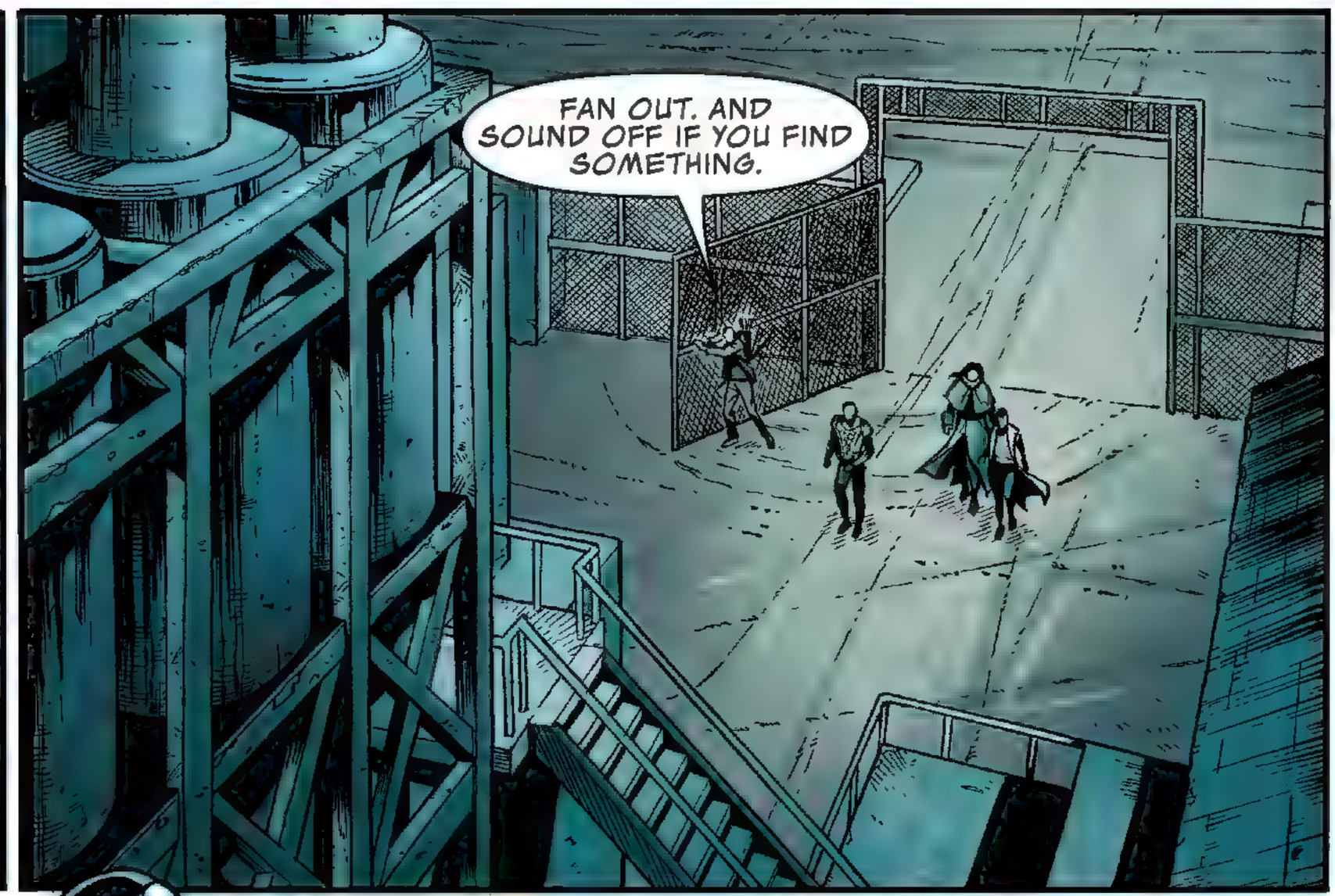
THE STATE POLICE RECORDED THE VEHICLE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER OF THE TRUCK INVOLVED IN THE ACCIDENT.

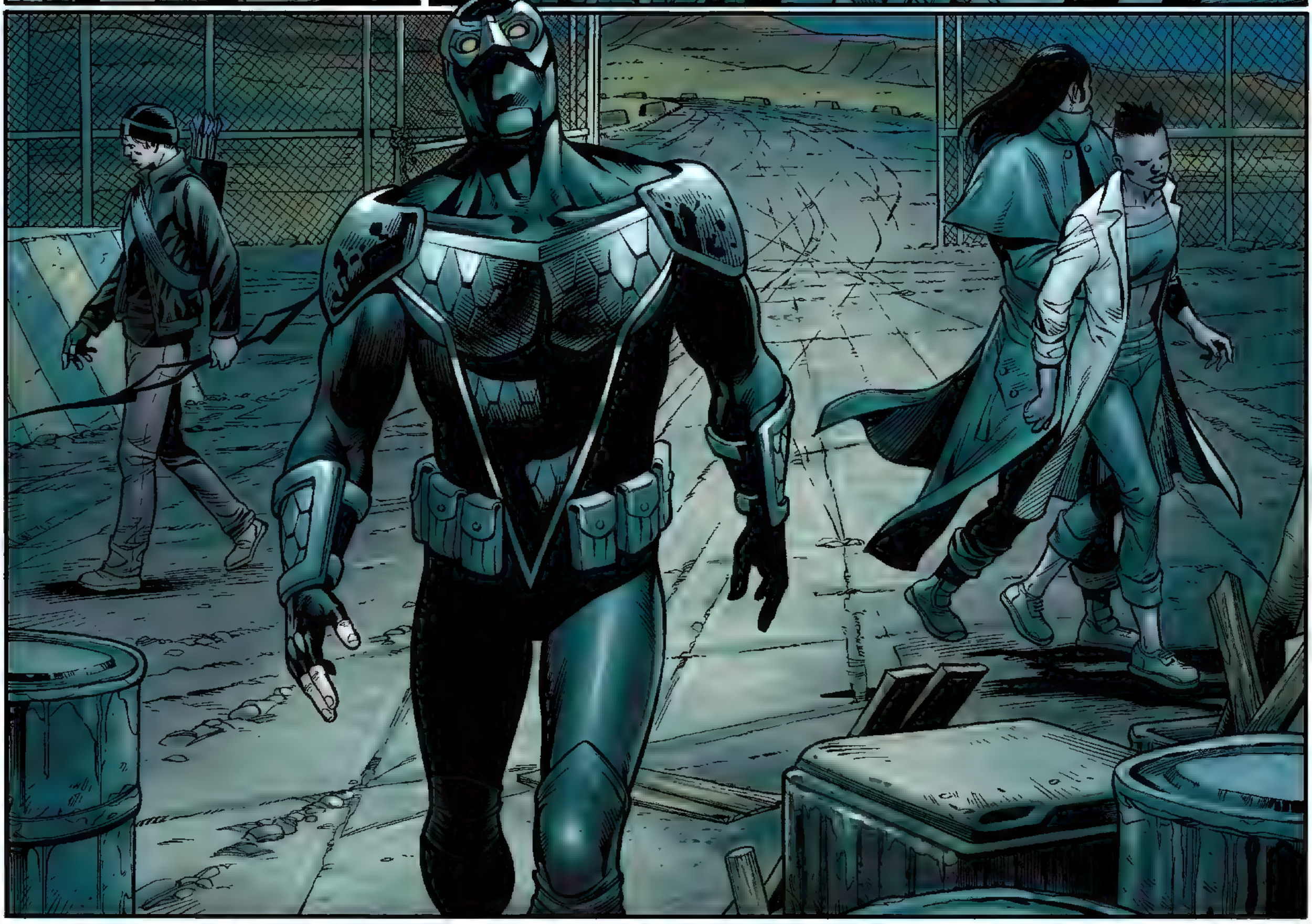
THE TRUCK HAD A GPS THAT TRACKED ITS ROUTE, AND I HACKED INTO NSA SATELLITE FEEDS, WHICH ALLOWED ME TO LOCATE THE TRUCK'S POINT OF ORIGIN.

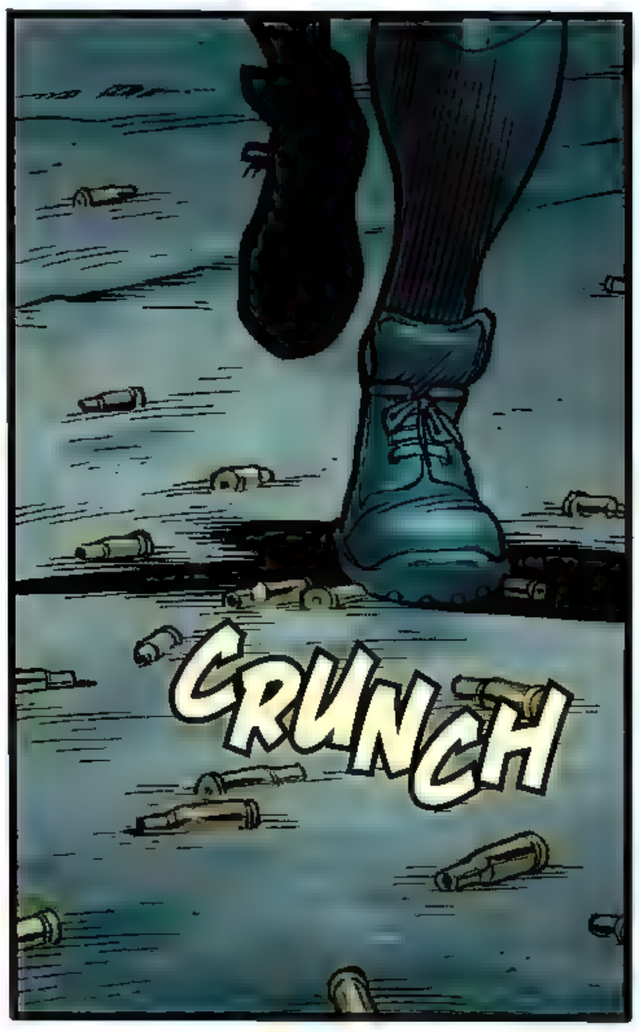




WELL, LET'S GO INSIDE AND SEE IF WE CAN FIGURE OUT WHAT'S HAPPENING.


FAN OUT. AND SOUND OFF IF YOU FIND SOMETHING.

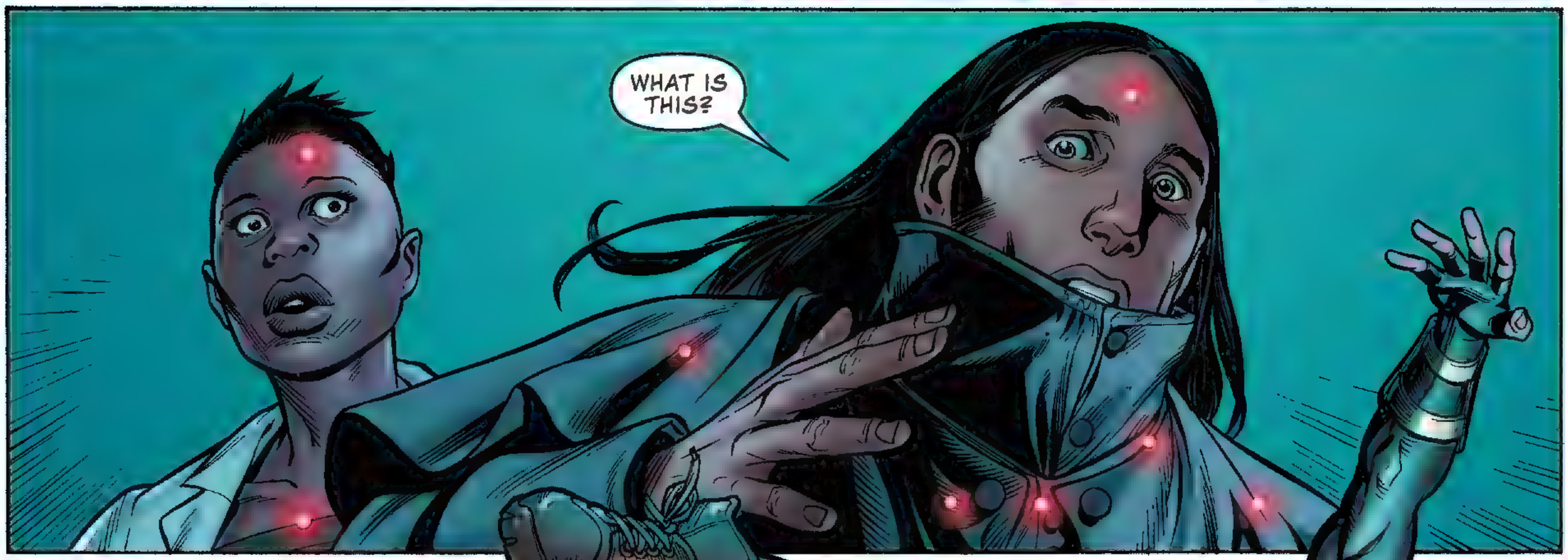



CRUNCH

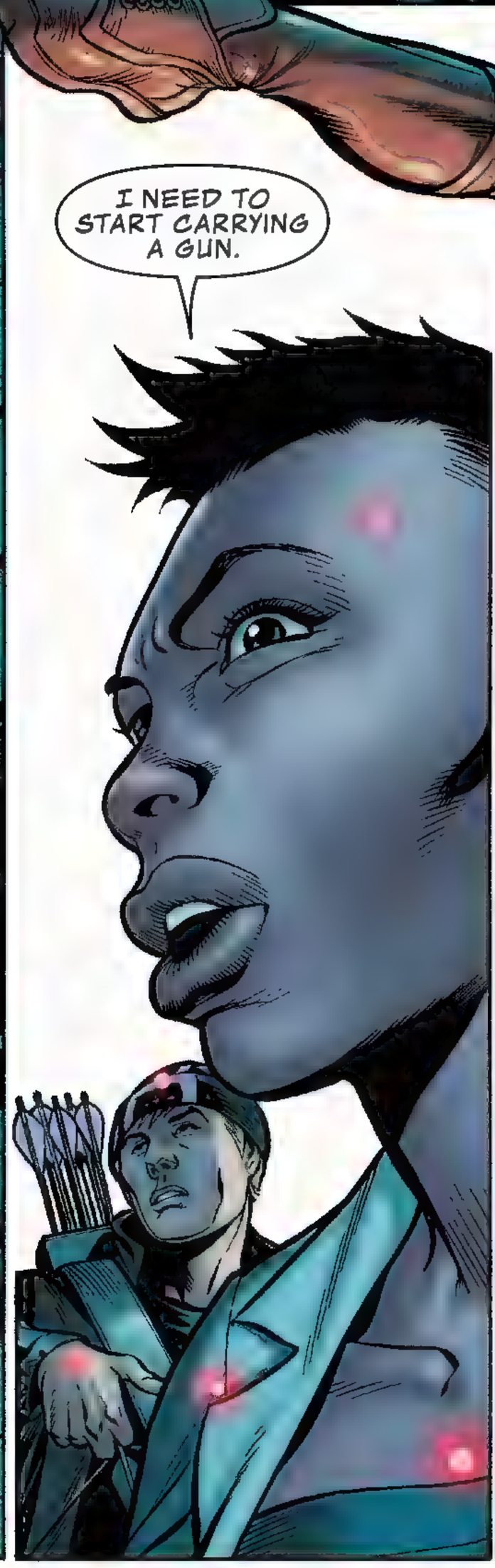
MUST HAVE BEEN ONE HELL OF A FIREFIGHT.

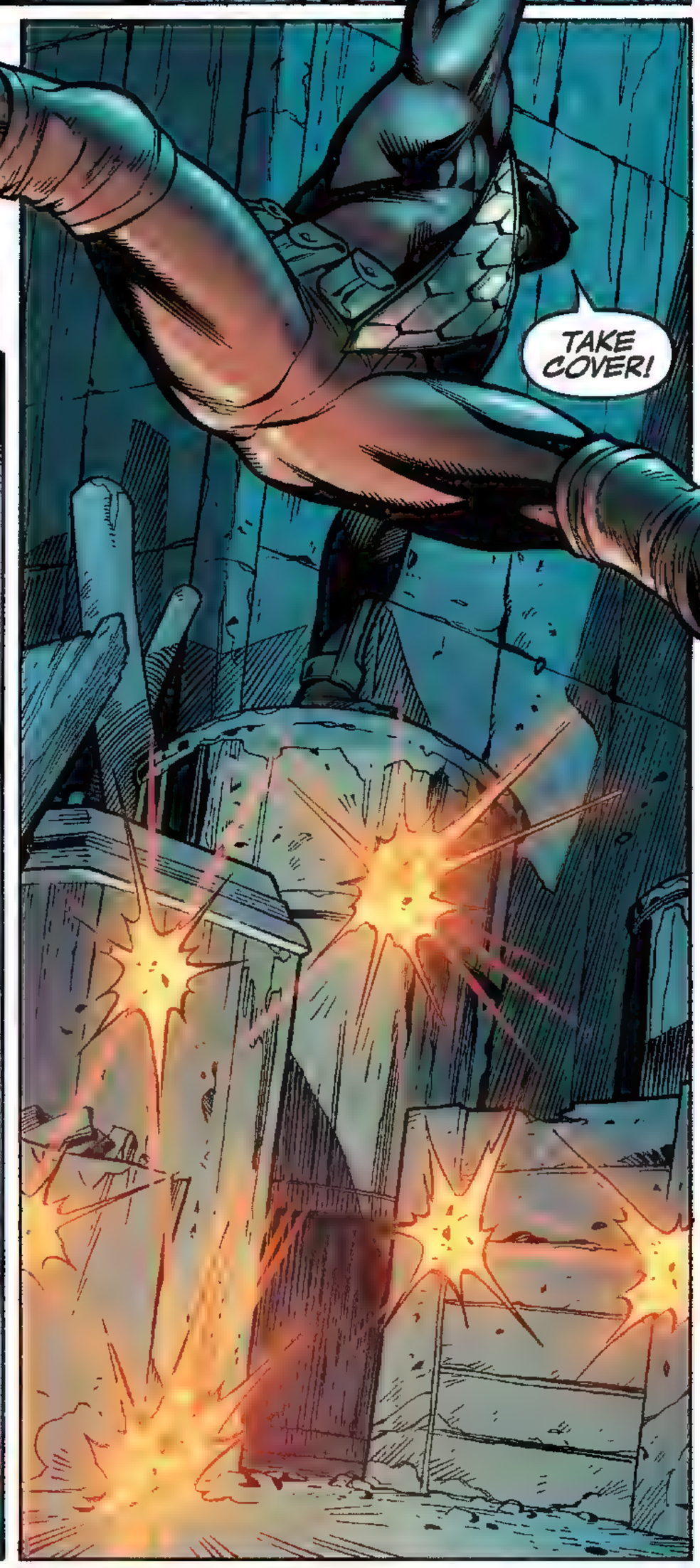
HEY. GOT SOMETHING OVER...

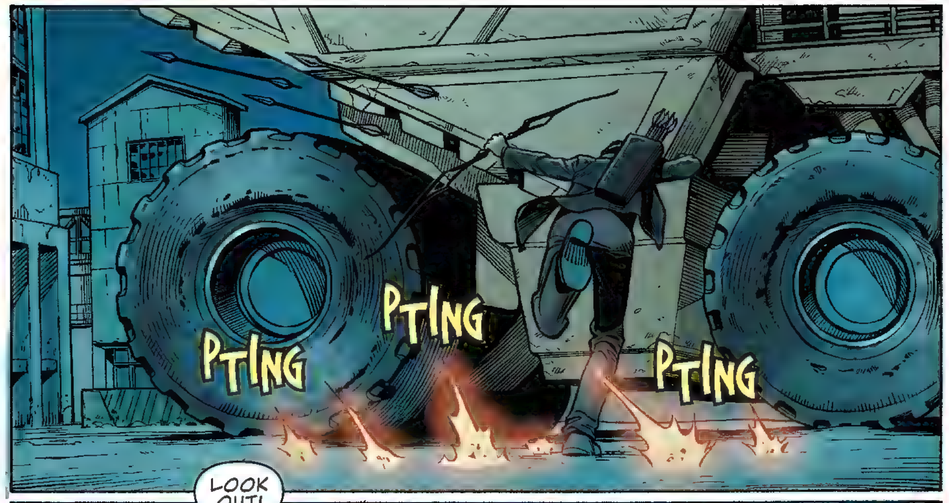
YOU FOUND SOMETHING INTERESTING?


WHAT IS THIS?

DAMN.


I NEED TO START CARRYING A GUN.


TAKE COVER!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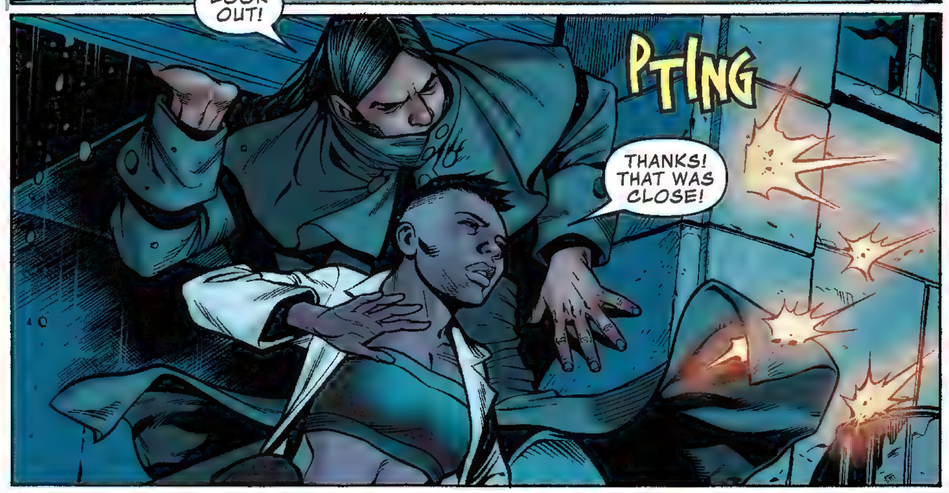
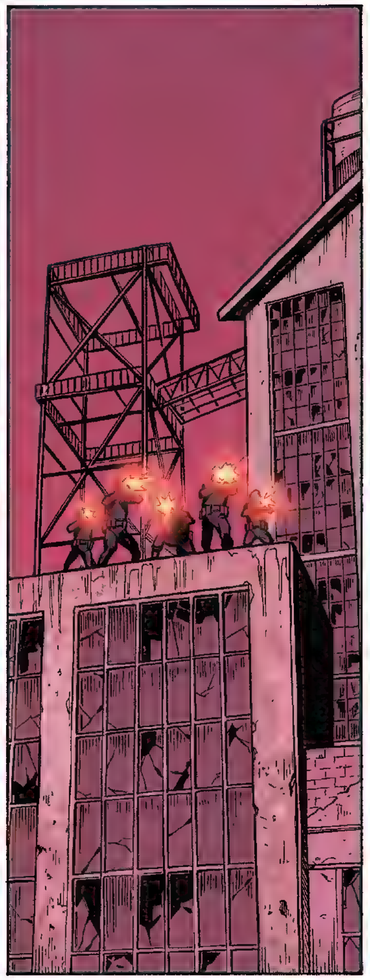
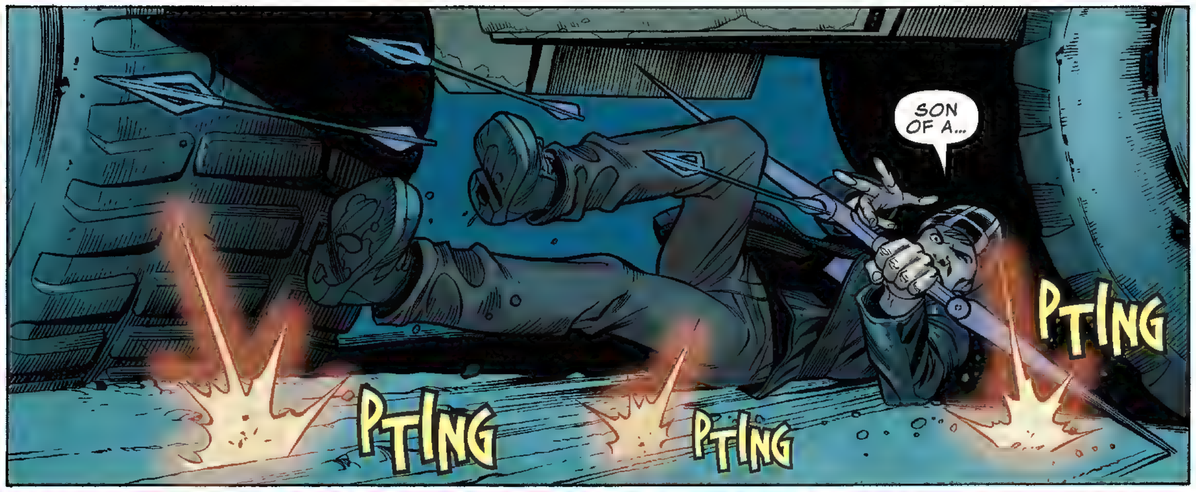
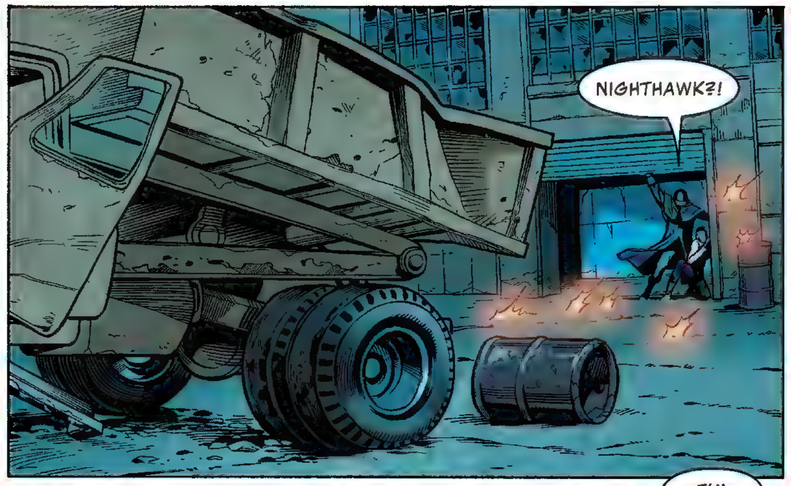
PTING

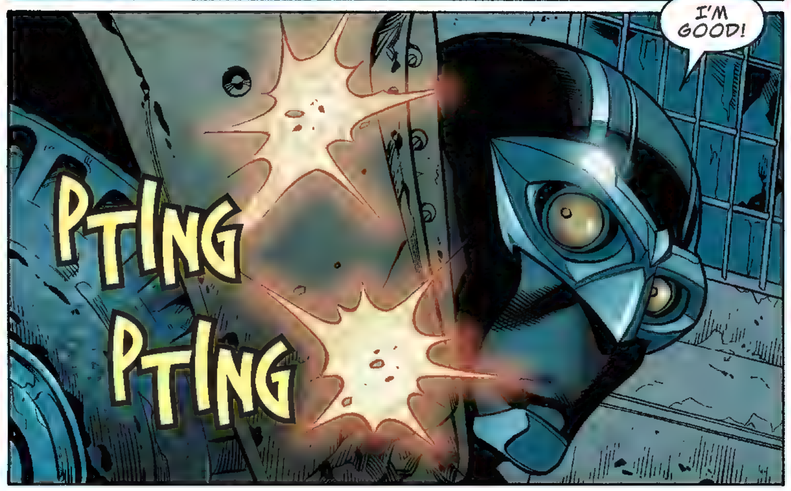

LOOK OUT!
PTING
THANKS! THAT WAS CLOSE!

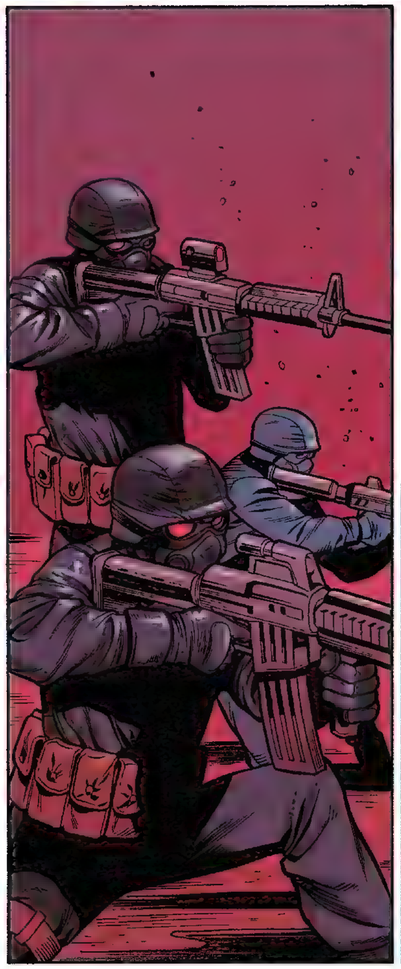


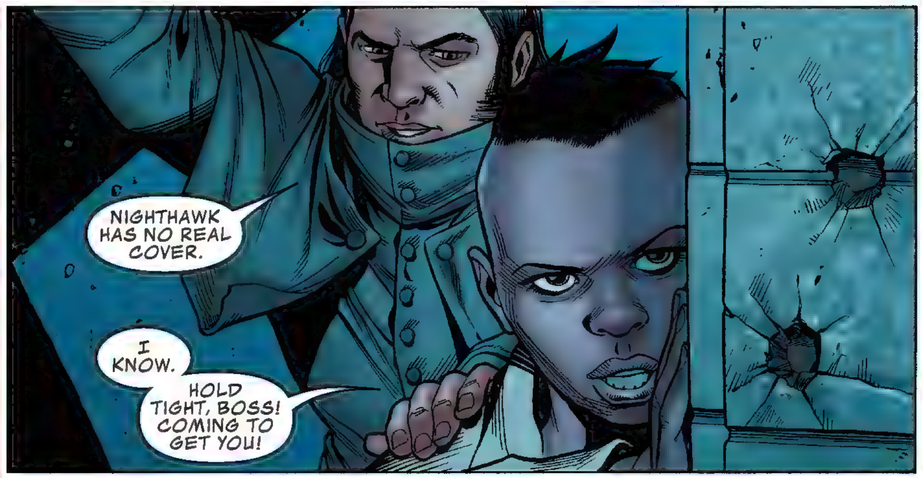

SON OF A...
PTING
PTING
PTING

THEY HAVE US PINNED DOWN GOOD.


NIGHTHAWK?!


I'M GOOD!
PTING
PTING




NIGHTHAWK HAS NO REAL COVER.
I KNOW.
HOLD TIGHT, BOSS! COMING TO GET YOU!

PTING
NO! I CAN TAKE CARE OF MYSELF!
PTING

WHY DOES THIS KEEP HAPPENING TO ME?
WE NEED TO FIND WEAPONRY SUITABLE FOR HANDLING THESE ATTACKERS, QUICKLY.
ARE YOU FLIRTING WITH ME?
THWUNK
ARRRGH!
WHERE'D THE FREAK DRESSED LIKE A BIRD GO?!
RIGHT HERE.
FWAAAP

TOLD YA THERE'D BE MORE OF 'EM. TAKE THESE TWO IN FOR QUESTIONING.
YES, SIR.

DON'T MOVE A MUSCLE, OR I'LL DROP YOU.

GIMME THAT ROCKET LAUNCHER.
SURE THING.

YOU AND JONES KEEP AN EYE ON THESE TWO, DUM DUM...

...I'LL DEAL WITH THE RIFFRAFF OUTSIDE.
SURE THING, COLONEL FURY.
TO BE CONTINUED...

OCCUPY THE LETTERS PAGE!

Welcome to the letters page, OCCUPY AVENGERS readers! We hope you've been enjoying this book as much as we've enjoyed working on it. If you like the series so far, or even if you don't, email us and let us know! We love hearing from you! Here to answer the feedback you've sent us so far is the wonderful wordsmith behind OCCUPY AVENGERS, David F. Walker.

God, this first issue was amazing! I love seeing Hawkeye fighting a new type of fight, and bringing in Red Wolf seems like it's going to be an amazing combination! Can't wait to see what happens next.

Michael Bennett

Okay, what happens next is this… just kidding. We've got some great adventures lined up for Hawkeye, Red Wolf, and the rest of the team (wait until you meet them). Things are going to get crazy.

To the OCCUPY AVENGERS Creative Team,

Like every day, I woke up this morning to scan the news and get a feel for what's popping on social media and, as usual, my moral and ethical inner life was set a'churning... Standing Rock, the presidential election, the Oregon Militia verdict, Flint's water supply, and the list goes on...so I decided to walk the dog to Comic College and navel gaze at the world's problems until I could find sweet escape in comic book form. I didn't find it.

OCCUPY AVENGERS provided something else. It gave me a sense of comfort in that, though the world is full of injustice and tragedy, there are creators willing to shed light on our collective problems in a way that's neither overly cynical, nor dismayingly naive. It's good to see the simplistic concept of heroism expanded on beyond the static and frankly fascist "antiheroes" or the tired, binary trend of characters having to choose between two impossible moral extremes every five minutes. So thank you for providing complex and good-hearted entertainment WITHOUT the escapism.

Who knows? Maybe you'll make a Hawkeye fan outta me yet!

All the best!
Johann Hauser-Ulrich

Thank you. Trying to find a balance between complexity and just plain fun entertainment isn't always easy. Within the space dictated by page-counts, I wanted to make sure that this series gave the reader something to chew on that went beyond the standard beat-'em-up stories we find in comics.

DFW,

While I'm not exactly sure about the concept, or even who's going to be on this experimental team, OCCUPY AVENGERS is a hit! Carlos Pacheco, who I've been reading… viewing?...since his days on *The Flash* and pretty much everything since then? Team magic! Not only has he had memorable runs on FANTASTIC FOUR and EXCALIBUR, but his issues of UNCANNY AVENGERS and now OCCUPY AVENGERS really sing! Hold onto this one! Or, what I mean is: keep doing teams, Avengers or otherwise! Red Wolf had a great solo series, better than any series our Hawkeye Clint Barton has ever had. That continues here, and that's great.

Say, what about the other Red Wolf, from the Texas Rangers? Clint knew him in WEST COAST AVENGERS, etc; so why doesn't he recognize him here? Is this a different, maybe even All-New, All-Different Red Wolf? And if so, what about the guy who was on the Rangers? And speaking of which, the O.A.'s adventures are set in New Mexico at least for now--what about having the Rangers appear here? Firebird may even be from New Mexico! And she's an External or something, but that's neither here nor there. I tend to doubt Hydro-Man will actually join this team, if indeed it is even a team (yet), but if so? I'm okay with that.

Furthermore: DFW (David F. Walker) can write! This is hot.

Cheers,
Andrew J. Shaw

I'm concerned that if I try to answer any of your questions, I'll sound like I have no idea what's going on in the Marvel Universe. Yes, this is a different Red Wolf. I don't know what happened to the other one (there's like three or four guys named Red Wolf). As for who else will show up in the book, and who will be on the team…the waiting is the best part.

Hey, team!

I've been so excited for this series ever since I heard about it, and it has exceeded my expectations. It's great to see Red Wolf in action again (R.I.P. solo series) and Hawkeye has always been a favorite. It's the best of both worlds, and with such a timely story and beautiful artwork, I couldn't be more pleased.

Well done! Can't wait for more!

James from Iowa

Well, James from Iowa, just wait until issue #5, which takes place in Iowa.

-David

Email us at MHEROES@MARVEL.COM and mark your emails "Okay to Print" if you'd like to see them answered here--we'll get to as many as we can! You can also tweet feedback, questions and general excitement using the #OccupyAvengers hashtag, and if you also use the hashtag #OKtoPrint, you may see your tweets in future issues as well! Come back next month to find out why the heck Nick Fury Sr. is back from the grave! (Or the moon, depending on who you ask.)

-Alanna

NEXT ISSUE: HOWLING COMMANDOS!

ZONE